NEWS RELEASE



Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2005

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW FREMONT/FOLSOM STREET OFF- RAMP OPENS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Caltrans, working closely with the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) will open the new Fremont Street off-ramp and the CCSF sponsored Folsom Street connector from westbound I-80 in San Francisco on *Friday, April 1, 2005*.

The new Fremont Street off-ramp will require motorists to decide to access the ramp approximately ¼ mile earlier than the existing ramp. New signage will be posted.

The Folsom Street connector of the Fremont Street off-ramp will tie directly into Folsom Street and is a feature of the 1997 Mid-Embarcadero/Terminal Separator Structure Environmental Impact Report, which included a series of traffic and transit improvements in addition to the construction of the Embarcadero roadway itself. Improvements included three new traffic signals, various signal upgrades and lane striping changes, as well as various Muni improvements. The widening of the U.S. 101 off-ramp at Fourth Street is the final element of these improvements and is under construction now.

The new "Folsom leg" portion of the Fremont Street off-ramp has been constructed to better serve drivers accessing Chinatown, North Beach and the Fisherman's Wharf areas. Signs will be posted directing drivers to use Folsom to the Embarcadero.

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